from Labour Bureau, the total number of units closed under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the workers affected as a result of this is given below:—

Year	No. of Units Closed	Workers Affected
1998	175	13,386
1999(P)	159 91	15,707
2000(P)		4,461

Separate category-wise information for big, medium and small scale units affecting closure is not available.

Ceiling for grant of pension to EPF members

2945. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has fixed a ceiling of Rs. 5,00(y- for grant of pension to the member of EPF scheme, 1952;

(b) whether it is also a fact that under this scheme the members are getting pension of Rs. 322/- or so which is insufficient for a family;

(c) whether it is also a fact that pension has not been linked with DA;

(d) whether Government have plans to revise and fix minimum pension; and

(e) whether free medical faculties have been provided to the retired employees in the scheme on the line of CGHS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The employees drawing wages upto

Rs. 500CK p.m. are compulsorily covered under the EPF/Pension Schemes framed under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

(b) The amount of pension under the EPS, 1995 Is determined keeping in view pensionable salary and length of contributory service rendered by the employees subject to a minimum of Rs. 265^ p.m.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Under the EPS, 1995 there is a provision for valuation of Pension Fund, and review of Pensionary benefits on an annual basis. Accordingly, on completion of 1st annual valuation of the Pension Fund, an increase of 4% on Pension in payment was sanctioned to the beneficiaries with effect from 16.11.1996. On completion of 2nd Annual Valuation, an additional increase of 5.5% has been sanctioned w.e.f. 1.4.1998. The minimum amount of children pensions was enhanced from Rs. US'- p.m. to Rs. 15CK p.m. and the minimum amount of orphan pension was enhanced from Rs. 170^4 p.m. to Rs. 25(V- p.m.

(e) The employees covered under the ESI Scheme, leaving insurable employment after completing five years and on attaining the age of superannuation are provided full medical care for themselves and their spouse on payment of nominal annual contribution as prescribed under the ESI Scheme.

Safety measures in mines

2946. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an accident occurred recently in the Bagdigi Mines of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. which has resulted in a number of deaths; if so, the causes of such an accident;

(b) whether Government have reviewed the safety measures followed by the mines in the aftermath of this accident;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?